

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CPR-03 PM-05

ICA-11 OPR-02 PA-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01 USSS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5660

S E C R E T SANA 3984

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, YE, ASEC

SUBJ: PROTECTIVE SECURITY FOR YEMENI PRIME MINISTER

BEGIN SUMMARY: YEMENI PM HAS REQUESTED USG
PROVIDE PROTECTIVE SECURITY DETAIL FOR DURATION HIS UP-
COMING VISIT IN UNITED STATES. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIME MINISTER ABD AL-AZIZ ABD AL-GHANI CALLED ME
IN TODAY TO DISCUSS HIS TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES WHICH
WILL BEGIN WHEN HE ARRIVES ON CONCORD FLIGHT IN NEW
YORK CITY ON AUGUST 17. GROUP NOW CONSISTS OF PRIME
MINISTER AND HIS WIFE, FOREIGN MINISTER ABDALLAH
AL-ASNAJ AND TWO YEMENI SECURITY MEN -- AHMAD ABDAL
RAHIM AQLAN AND ALI HAMDANI. MOHAMMAD
ABD AL-AZIZ SALAM, CHEF DE CABINET FOR PRIME MINISTER,
WILL ALSO ACCOMPANY.

2. PRIME MINISTER QUESTIONED ME ABOUT GIFTS,
ARRANGEMENTS IN COLORADO AND OTHER MATTERS BUT SAID
NOTHING ABOUT SECURITY UNTIL THE END OF THE MEETING WHEN
I RAISED THE QUESTION OF POLICE INTERVENTION IN A LOCAL
CASE INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZEN. PM THEN SAID "WE,
OF COURSE, ARE EXPECTING TO DO WHATEVER YOUR POLICE TELL
US TO DO IN THE UNITED STATES."

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3. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT SECURITY PEOPLE IN THE DEPART-
MENT INTENDED TO NOTIFY PORT AUTHORITIES AND LOCAL POLICE
DEPARTMENTS OF PRIME MINISTER'S MOVEMENTS BUT UNTIL
THIS MOMENT THERE HAD BEEN NO REQUEST FROM YEMENI SIDE
FOR PROTECTIVE DETAIL TO ACCOMPANY PRIME MINISTER.
PRIME MINISTER WAS AGHAST. HE CALLED IN CHEF DE

CABINET AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WHO APPEARED STUNNED. PRIME MINISTER SAID HE BELIEVED THAT HE AND FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ WERE VERY HIGH ON THE LISTS OF PEOPLE THE SOUTH WANTED TO KILL AS YAR PRESIDENT AL-GHASHMI HAD BEEN KILLED AND MINISTER OF STATE AL-HAJRI. "WHAT COULD OUR SECURITY PEOPLE DO IN THE UNITED STATES?" HE ASKED RHETORICALLY. I ASKED WHY AHMAD ABDAL RAHIM FROM NATIONAL SECURITY, WHO HAS MET WITH US ABOUT FORTHCOMING TRIP, HAD NOT RAISED THIS SUBJECT AND PRIME MINISTER AGAIN SAID THAT AHMAD, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, MUST HAVE ASSUMED WE WOULD LAY ON PROTECTION AS A MATTER OF COURSE.

COMMENT: THERE IS NO QUESTION ABOUT DEPTH OF FEELING ON SUBJECT OF SECURITY WHILE IN UNITED STATES. PM WAS SHOCKED TO THINK WE WOULD NOT PROVIDE GUARDS. HIS SENSE OF DANGER IS REAL. EVEN KNOWING THIS, I HAVE BEEN CAREFUL NOT TO ELICIT A REQUEST BY ANYTHING I SAID IN THE NUMEROUS DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD ABOUT THIS TRIP. NOW THAT REQUEST IS IN HAND, HOWEVER, I FEEL WE SHOULD RESPOND FULLY DESPITE SHORT NOTICE.
RANSOM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: PROTECTIVE SECURITY FOR YEMENI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN SUMMARY: YEMENI PM HAS REQUESTED USG PROVIDE PROTECTIVE SECURITY DETAIL FOR DURATION HI
TAGS: OVIP, ASEC, YE, (ABD AL-GHANI, ABD AL-AZIZ)
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